

September 13, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

**PROPOSED COURT RULES DEFINING "COURT RECORDS," GOVERNING PUBLIC ACCESS ON AGENDA FOR SUPREME COURT PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Also on September 27 administrative agenda: Should indigent prisoners have court-appointed attorneys if prosecutors or crime victims challenge parole grants?**

[Press release](#)

**The Detroit News: Juvenile injustice: Branded unemployable forever, as a child**

Professor Frank Vandervort and Saginaw County Probate Judge Faye Harrison write "Twenty years ago, amid near-hysteria about juvenile crime, Michigan's Legislature enacted a series of reforms that made it easier to brand a child delinquent and much harder to remove that label. Today, we are paying the price for that misguided policy."

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Judge's ruling on consent agreement could affect wage cuts in Detroit**

"Detroit Mayor Dave Bing could be hampered in his efforts to impose wage cuts on city employees under a judge's order.... Ingham County Circuit Judge Paula Manderfield struck down two sections of the consent agreement between the state and Detroit, saying they grant powers reserved for emergency managers to Bing and other officials."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**The Detroit News: Judge invalidates pay cut provisions of Detroit consent agreement**

[Full story](#)

**MLive.com: Portions of Detroit consent agreement struck down by Lansing judge**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Ruling could come soon in Troy open meetings suit**

"In a government gadfly's lawsuit charging that Troy violated the state Open Meetings Act, Oakland County Circuit Judge Colleen O'Brien told attorneys Wednesday that she would take the issue under advisement. But O'Brien could issue a written opinion within days, both sides said."

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Man withdraws guilty plea in father's death (fourth article)**

"Jason Kinnie, who is accused of killing his father last year, withdrew his guilty plea to second-degree murder Wednesday, the day he was to be sentenced. A trial date was set for Dec. 11, according to court records."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**The Macomb Daily: Accused murderer recants admission**

[\*Full story\*](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Bob Bashara is strapped, can't afford \$15-million bond, his attorney tells court**

"[Wayne County Circuit Judge Bruce Morrow] will make a decision by Tuesday on Bob Bashara's \$15-million bond after considering arguments made this morning in Wayne County Circuit Court by prosecutor and defense attorneys."

[\*Full story\*](#)

**Also see:**

**The Detroit News: Prosecutor: Bashara has 'Obedient Slave' doing his bidding**

[\*Full story\*](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Adoptive parents to file suit today, saying they were not told of kids' disabilities**

"A group of Michigan parents who say state and adoption agency officials withheld information about serious physical and mental disabilities among their adopted children will file a lawsuit today in U.S. District Court, seeking damages for millions of dollars in adoption subsidies they say they were entitled to but denied."

[\*Full story\*](#)

**Also see:**

**Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Parent sue Michigan DHS over special needs children**

[\*Full story\*](#)

**WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: Lawsuit Being Filed Against DHS for Handicapped Kids**

[\*Full story\*](#)

**Battle Creek Enquirer: Lauded jury reforms not new in Calhoun County**

"New juror procedures — including taking notes and asking questions — in Michigan courts can provide a better understanding for the people who must decide a trial."

[\*Full story\*](#)

**\*This article is available only by subscription.**

**Also see:**

**Detroit Legal News: State high court and trial judges receive national award for jury innovation**

[\*Full story\*](#)

**Three Rivers Commercial-News: Local judge among those awarded for jury reform project**

[\*Full story\*](#)

**National Center for State Courts: Michigan Supreme Court receives 2012 Munsterman Award**

[\*Full story\*](#)

**NATIONAL JURY INNOVATION AWARD HONORS MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT, TRIAL COURT JUDGES FOR MICHIGAN JURY REFORM PROJECT**

[\*Press release\*](#)

**Crain's Detroit Business: Attorney Henry Baskin to receive reprimand for having sex with divorce client**

"... The state Attorney Discipline Board ordered [Wednesday] that [Henry] Baskin be reprimanded but not suspended for misconduct in his representation of Linda Olson, and to pay \$2,468.11 in fees and costs for the board and state Attorney Grievance Commission."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**The Michigan Lawyer Blog: ADB panel reprimands Baskin for misconduct**

[Full story](#)

**The Oakland Press: Attorney who slept with divorce client receives reprimand from attorney discipline board**

[Full story](#)

**The Daily News/Greenville: Proposed budget presented to Montcalm County, final vote will be Sept. 24**

"The Montcalm County Sheriff's Office will likely take the biggest hit in the 2012-2013 county budget.... According to [Sheriff Bill] Barnwell, the \$345,000 in proposed cuts for the upcoming fiscal year comprises almost 16 percent of the sheriff's office budget and court security budget."

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Legal News: Asked and Answered: Andrew Moore on UDM Law's Red Mass**

"... The Red Mass is an occasion for judges, lawyers, and officials of all faiths to pray together for guidance at the beginning of the new judicial term and join in the Renewal of the Lawyer's Oath of Commitment. This year's Oath will be led by the Honorable Michael F. Cavanagh, Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court."

[Full story](#)

**Flint Journal: Flint water rate lawsuit appealed to Michigan Supreme Court**

"... Flint City Councilman Scott Kincaid asked the state's high court to hear the case after the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled that the water rate hikes that went into effect in September 2011 and in July 2012 do not violate the Michigan Constitution, as alleged in Kincaid's lawsuit against the city."

[Full story](#)

**Holland Sentinel: OUR VIEW — Reduce influence of politics, money at state high court**

The editorial states "Michigan Democrats and Republicans met in state conventions last weekend to nominate their candidates for the 'non-partisan' Michigan Supreme Court. We suspect the delegates didn't spend a lot of time rating potential justices on the basis of their objective judicial demeanor, the depth of their legal scholarship or their willingness to stick to the law and make tough decisions even if they run counter to the goals of the state's power elites."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**Legal Newslines: Mich. Democrats nominate three women for SC**

[Full story](#)

**Washtenaw County Legal News: McCormack accepts nomination for the Michigan Supreme Court**

[Full story](#)

**Ingham County Legal News: Treatment providers vital to 54A success**

"Sobriety Courts are successful. Nationally, 75% of the participants who complete the program are not re-arrested. Locally, 54A and 55th District Court Sobriety Courts are beating that statistic. The dedication of the Sobriety Court Teams working in each court contributes to that success."

[Full story](#)

### **Ingham County Legal News: Judges recognize Hon. James C. Kingsley with award**

"Hon. James C. Kingsley of the 37th Circuit Court (Calhoun County) is the 2012 recipient of the Michigan Judges Association's Hilda Gage Award for Judicial Excellence, MJA President Timothy G. Hicks announced. The award is named in honor of the late Judge Hilda Gage, who served on the Court of Appeals and the Oakland County Circuit Court."

[Full story](#)

### **The Macomb Daily: Prosecutor reprimanded for calling killer 'sociopath'**

"... [Macomb County Prosecuted Eric] Smith violated the rules of professional conduct for attorneys because he 'failed to treat with courtesy and respect a person involved in the legal process,' says the Michigan Attorney Discipline Board in a June 20 order."

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Court says icy lot couldn't be avoided at UP lodge**

"A woman who was just days away from leaving a job at an Upper Peninsula lodge can sue her former employer over her broken leg in an icy parking lot."

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Judge says federal civil jury trials at risk without budget deal**

"... The federal judiciary's share of the cuts would be more than \$500 million if Congress does not reach a budget deal by year's end to prevent some \$1.2 trillion in spending cuts and tax increases from kicking in next year, Chief Judge David Sentelle of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia said.... The judiciary is developing contingency plans to deal with severe budget cutbacks, he said. Those might include closing some entrances to courthouses to save money on security personnel."

[Full story](#)

### **Spinal Column Newsweekly/Waterford: Patriot Week events run through Monday, Sept. 17**

"With ceremonies and festivities that began yesterday, Tuesday, Sept. 11 and running through Monday, Sept. 17, Constitution Day, Patriot Week has officially kicked off in what is billed as a celebration of the American spirit and American principles."

[Full story](#)

### **Sturgis Journal: Stewart's appeal denied**

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has upheld Doug Stewart's conviction in the 2010 slaying of his estranged wife, Venus Stewart. On Tuesday, a three-judge panel issued its decision in a five-page ruling."

[Full story](#)

### **Three Rivers Commercial-News: Stewart appeal denied**

[Full story](#)